

Appl. No.: 09/522,724
Reply to Office Action f July 30, 2003

Patent
Docket No.: 247/212 US
24750-7003

REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 21 and 25 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) based on U.S. Patent No. 5,967,986 issued to Cimochoowski et al. ("Cimochoowski"). Claims 7-20, 22-24 and 26 have been canceled. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended. Claims 7-20, 22-24 and 26 have been canceled.

Cimochoowski discloses:

FIG. 19 illustrates an integrated circuit (IC) sensor 220 mounted on a stent body 222, so that the IC sensor overlies a sensor window opening 224 in the stent body. Conductive adhesive or solder drops 228 couple the IC sensor contacts to the stent body (or to conductors that are coupled to one of the electronic assemblies shown in FIGS. 1-6). A biocompatible coating 226 encloses the IC sensor, except in the area of the sensor window opening through which the IC sensor is in contact with the fluid flowing through the lumen of the stent.

(Col. 22, lines 50-59).

Cimochoowski neither discloses nor suggests a biosensor "having at least a portion exposed to a region external to the stent graft" as recited in amended Claim 1. Therefore, applicants submit that claim 1 as amended is patentable over Cimochoowski. Given that claims 2-6, 21 and 25 depend from amended claim 1, applicants submit these claims are also patentable over Cimochoowski.

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CONCLUSION

Allowance of the claims is respectfully requested. The Examiner may call the Assignee's attorney at (650) 849-4422 to further advance prosecution of this case to issuance.

If the Commissioner determines that additional fees are due or that an excess fee has been paid, the Patent Office is authorized to debit or credit (respectively) Deposit Account No. 50-2518, referencing billing no. 7015272001.

DATE: 8-29-03

Respectfully submitted,

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